

# COUNTY OF YORK

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 31, 2005 (BOS Mtg. 6/7/05)

**TO:** York County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** James O. McReynolds, County Administrator

**SUBJECT:** Parking Restrictions for Large Commercial, Recreational and Passenger-Carrying Vehicles in Victory Industrial Park and Parking Restrictions for Yorktown

### **Victory Industrial Park**

For the past several months, the streets in Victory Industrial Park have been used on a frequent basis as the parking place for tractor-trailer units operated by a logging contractor who is not an owner of property within the industrial park. The streets in Victory Industrial Park are public streets and, as such, there currently are no prohibitions on travel and use (including parking) by any party. Parking of the logging trucks and trailers, sometimes loaded with logs and sometimes empty, has been of great concern to the owners of properties in the park, both from an aesthetic and safety standpoint. This practice has been reported to both VDOT and the Sheriff's Department and the Sheriff's Department has cited the truck operator on a few occasions when the parked vehicle created a traffic safety issue (i.e., obstructing a travel lane). However, because the streets in Victory are wide enough to accommodate parking lanes on both sides, the Sheriff's Department can do nothing if the vehicle is parked so as not to encroach on a travel lane.

Even though these large vehicles may not technically encroach on the travel lane, they obstruct sight distance and cause motorists to cross the yellow centerline to provide an extra margin of safety when passing even a properly parked vehicle. In addition, although the streets in Victory Industrial Park are designed to accommodate traffic associated with commercial and light industrial uses, they are not designed and engineered for heavy vehicle parking and storage. Such use can place unanticipated stress and load on the pavement and over the course of time may cause damage to the pavement and road base. With these concerns in mind, the Victory Industrial Park Property Owners Association has requested that the Board of Supervisors establish restrictions to prohibit large vehicle parking on the streets within the park (see attached letter dated April 19, 2005).

I believe that Victory Industrial Park is an appropriate candidate for inclusion in the list of areas subject to the large vehicle parking restrictions. The streets within the park, while suitable for light industrial traffic, were not intended as a truck parking yard and continued use for that purpose will cause unnecessary and premature deterioration. Furthermore, even though such vehicles may be able to be parked outside the designated travel lanes, they can still create sight obstructions (see attached photographs) that could lead to traffic safety problems. Given that the Property Owners Association has made the

request formally, I recommend that the Board schedule the issue for public hearing and formal consideration at the June 21, 2005 meeting.

### **Yorktown Parking**

Section 15-48 of the County Code also contains provisions restricting parking in Yorktown and in the course of preparing for the opening of Riverwalk Landing, staff has identified several additional street segments where it believes No Parking restrictions are appropriate and necessary. Currently, section 15-48 prohibits on-street parking on the following streets in Yorktown:

- Comte de Grasse Street
- Read Street, between Main and Ballard Streets
- Ballard Street, except between Main and Water Streets
- Buckner Street
- Water Street, between the National Park Service Picnic Area and Ballard Street and excepting the south side (Pub, Waterstreet Landing, Duke of York frontage) between Read and Ballard.

To ensure that traffic can move smoothly and safely through the streets of Yorktown and to enhance pedestrian safety, staff recommends that on-street parking be prohibited on the following additional street segments:

- Mathews Street, between Rt. 17 and Water Street
- Ballard Street, between Main and Water Streets
- Water Street, on the south side along the Duke of York frontage
- Water Street, between Ballard Street and the entrance to the Victory Center.

I recommend that these proposed changes also be advertised for public hearing at the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Carter/3337:jmc

#### **Attachments:**

- Letter dated April 19, 2005 from Victory Industrial Park Property Owners Association
- Vicinity map
- Photographs of large vehicle parking in Victory Industrial Park
- Proposed Ordinance No. 05-18